Inside This Issue:

- **"Trump Gaza" Riviera: Seriously?**
- **Anti-parent Transgender Subversion in Rhode Island Public Schools: How About Your State?**
- **Judicial Usurpation: Black-robed Tyrants Strike Again … and Again**
- **EXPOSED: Biden/Big Tech Censorship Industrial Complex**
- **Taiwan Declares China a "Hostile Foreign Force"**
- **Trump Floats Levies on Chinese Ships**
- **OECD Slams Trump Tariffs: No Surprise!**
- ***Jacobin* Touts Red Pedigree of Folk Music Icons Guthrie and Seeger**
- **Constitution Victory: Idaho Rejects ConCon … Again**

"Trump Gaza" Riviera: Seriously?

O.K., Hamas is bad. Hamas is a terrorist organization. We stipulate that from the start. Moreover, we fully agree that the savage Hamas-led terrorist attacks on Israelis in the Gaza Strip on October 7, 2023, were damnable. And Israel was/is fully justified in responding.

But responding *how*? By carpet bombing population centers and killing tens of thousands of civilians, including mostly women, children, and elderly? By bombing schools, hospitals, churches, and mosques? By destroying all housing and driving most of the more than two million Palestinians into the desert? By blockading all humanitarian aid, including food, water, medical supplies, tents, and mobile homes? How much "collateral damage" is acceptable? And for how long? Or is the civilian "collateral damage" truly unintentional? Is it part of a plan of ethnic cleansing?

To ask these questions is not to side with Hamas or with the pro-Hamas media propagandists or the pro-Hamas college demonstrators. To ask these questions is not to be "anti-Israel," "anti-Semitic," or "anti-Trump" (even if those labels accurately fit some of the critics). To ask these questions is to be a responsible American citizen, since it is our government's support and our tax dollars that are encouraging and enabling this ongoing carnage. President Donald Trump has done and is doing some remarkably positive things that we have gladly applauded. However, his plan for the United States to "take over" and "own" Gaza, announced on February 4, is a *colossal* misstep that unconstitutionally and immorally injects our nation into the middle of the seething Middle East cauldron. To make matters worse, President Trump posted an AI-generated video on Truth Social portraying a hedonistic new "Trump Gaza" that is offensive to observant Muslims, Christians, and Jews.

First, the text of his White House presser with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on February 4:

> The US will take over the Gaza Strip and we will do a job with it too. We'll own it and be responsible for dismantling all of the dangerous unexploded bombs and other weapons on the site, level the site and get rid of the destroyed

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buildings. Level it out. Create an economic development that will supply unlimited numbers of jobs and housing for the people of the area. Do a real job. Do something different. Just can't go back.

The full text of the presser can be found here.

Now to the Trump-sponsored AI video referenced above. One has to wonder if Trump is knowingly engaging in self-sabotage or if subversive or crazy people in his entourage are playing upon his ego to lead him (and all of us) to ruin. The "Trump Gaza" video couldn't have been more poorly timed or more provocatively made to inflame world opinion against U.S.-Israeli moves in Gaza. The video, set to a driving rap music score, shows Gaza emerging from the desolation of war to a glitzy, Las Vegas-style beachfront "paradise" with skyscraper hotels, money falling from the sky, a giant gold-gilt Trump statue, and Trump dancing with almost naked belly dancers. To top it off, we see topless Donald Trump and Benjamin Netanyahu in swimming trunks (AI generated) lounging beside a pool, sharing cocktails.

It was shocking enough when Trump announced his "takeover" plan. In that February 4 presser, he also said: "We have an opportunity to do something that could be phenomenal. And I don't want to be cute. I don't want to be a wise guy. But the Riviera of the Middle East, this could be something that could be so magnificent." Magnificent? To many, if not most, of the Muslims, Christians, and Jews of the Middle East it was a portent of the displacement and decadence being planned for the area. Will a couple million desperate Palestinians be shoved out to make a playground "Riviera" for the wealthy? The "Trump Gaza" video only serves to confirm these fears. It also calls into question Trump's personal and family financial motivations in the matter. (Trump's Gaza plan echoes a proposal by his son-in-law and former Middle East advisor Jared Kushner, whose private equity fund, Affinity Partners, a developer of luxury properties, appears poised to jump on a Gaza Riviera project.)

The "Trump Gaza" video is, to put it mildly, *very bad optics*. To flaunt sybaritic indulgence and extravagant opulence while Palestinians are digging out bodies and body parts of their loved ones from rubble caused by Israeli bombs is beyond insensitive. It is an over-the-top *provocation.* The creators of the video say it was meant as a "political satire," whatever that means in the context of this volatile and tragic conflict. Nevertheless, President Trump appears to be willing to own it. That is beyond unfortunate. What's more, he has given Netanyahu the signal that he supports unleashing "hell" on Gaza. While no one should object to raining down "hell" on Hamas, no one should fall into the trap of conflating all two million Palestinians with the Hamas terrorists among them.

It is extremely difficult to separate facts and truth from deceit and propaganda in any war situation. When it comes to the complexities of the Middle East, it's doubly difficult. Sorting out the internal politics of Israel and the internal politics of the Palestinians in Gaza and the West Bank are nigh unto impossible. Add in the irredentist

claims and schemes of Iran, Russia, and the CFR/WEF/UN globalists, and we have a recipe for perpetual war. Donald Trump may think that his Gaza plan will yield another "Art of the Deal" triumph, but it looks a lot like hubris and greed. A lot more humility, sensitivity, and realism are in order. — WFJ

Anti-parent Transgender Subversion in Rhode Island Public Schools: How About Your State?

On March 18, Parents Defending Education (PDE), a national grassroots organization, released a shocking report on transgender activism by the Department of Education. The report, "Transgender Policies in Rhode Island," found that *at least* 83 percent of K-12 pupils in the Ocean State's government schools are subject to the Department's subversive policies.

According to the PDE report: "All the policies we documented in Rhode Island include language about withholding information from parents about their own child's gender identity at school. The policy states that the child gets to decide whether or not their parents can be told."

In brief, the PDE report found:

- Number of K-12 school districts in Rhode Island with these gender policies: 32
- Total number of K-12 students in Rhode Island: 137,449
- Number of students in RI districts with these gender policies: 113,452
- Percent of RI students in districts with these gender policies: 83 percent

The report notes that as stunning as these statistics are, they are almost certainly *under*representing the true numbers. Why is that? Well, because the PDE stats are "based on publicly available policies." And there are some "districts that use guidance or provide training that are not publicly accessible."

The Rhode Island Department of Education has statewide guidance titled "Guidance for Rhode Island Schools on Transgender and Gender Nonconforming Students," which PDE reproduces in this online report. "The state's guidance recognizes that some children participate in irreversible procedures in adopting transgender identities," PDE notes.

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"Students are allowed to use the restrooms and locker rooms according to their preferred gender identity under this guidance," PDE reports. "Students are additionally allowed to participate in intramural and interscholastic sports according to their preferred gender identity. The guidance borrows language and quotes from GLSEN. The organization GLSEN is known for promoting LGBTQ ideology to young children and schools."

But please don't get the idea that Rhode Island is somehow unique with regard to this wicked assault on God, nature, parents, children, families, society, science, and common sense. GLSEN — the Gay, Lesbian & Straight Education Network — and its comrades among the college professoriate and the militant teachers unions

(National Education Association and American Federation of Teachers) are active everywhere. Consult the PDE IndoctriNation Map and/or the informative website of MassResistance to find out the status of this tax-funded war on children in your state.

GLSEN, you may recall, was founded by "gay" teacher Kevin Jennings, a darling of the NEA, whom President Obama appointed as his "Safe Schools Czar" in 2009. (See our 2009 articles exposing Obama-Jennings-GLSEN here and here.)

The good news is that, fortunately, President Trump's executive orders upending Obama-Biden transgender policies in schools, the military, and government agencies have given encouragement to state governors, state legislatures, state attorneys general, and local officials to challenge the radical child mutilationists. Heck, even far-left, looney California Governor Gavin Newsom put his finger to the wind and saw that a new wind is blowing. So, he did the expedient political flip-flop and now says that putting "trans girls" (i.e., boys who "identify" as girls) in girls' sports is "unfair." Imagine that! — WFJ

Judicial Usurpation: Black-robed Tyrants Strike Again — and Again

Once again, a federal judge fancies himself king. In an outrageous act of judicial overreach, U.S. District Judge William Alsup has tried to usurp the president's constitutional authority by ordering six executive agencies to reinstate employees dismissed under a lawful directive from President Trump. But let's be clear: no judge — not one, not a panel, not even the Supreme Court — has the authority to override a lawful presidential order within the executive branch. That's not just constitutional theory — it's the plain letter of Article II: *"The executive Power shall be vested in a President of the United States of America."* Period.

The judiciary is not a supervisory board for the executive branch. It has no constitutional right to command executive officers, micromanage agency operations, or paralyze the president with rogue injunctions. These black-robed oligarchs have stepped far beyond their jurisdiction, transforming from impartial arbiters into unconstitutional tyrants. The president is not their errand boy — he is the chief executive, bound by oath to defend the Constitution, not surrender it. If liberty is to survive, we must reject this myth of judicial supremacy and restore the proper balance: courts decide cases; they do not govern the republic. — JW

(For a fuller explication of the above topic, see Joe Wolverton's March 13 article "No Judge Rules the Executive: The Constitution Crushes the Myth of Judicial Supremacy")

EXPOSED: Biden/Big Tech Censorship Industrial Complex

The Media Research Center (MRC) has released a new bombshell report that exposes "57 distinct Biden initiatives that targeted Americans' ability to speak their minds."

The 43-page report, titled "The Biden Administration Waged War on Free Speech with 57 Censorship Initiatives," details the frightening level of Orwellian thought-control structures that were put into place over the past several years. We have reported extensively on these dangerous developments (see here, here, here, and here, for instance).

"The Biden administration's censorship efforts," notes the report, "ran the gamut from coercing and colluding with Big Tech platforms to silence his opponents; using taxpayer dollars to fund censorship organizations that pledged to cancel conservative voices; enlisting foreign agents to suppress stories from right-leaning media outlets; and weaponizing federal agencies to target those critical of the administration."

Here are some examples of "Direct Action" taken by Biden officials:

- White House Senior Advisor for the COVID-19 Response Andy Slavitt pressured Amazon to ban books critical of the government's position on vaccination and the Covid-19 pandemic.
- The Department of Justice got an activist judge to ban Big Tech platform X and its owner Elon Musk from notifying users of the government's surveillance.
- The White House and the National Institute of Allergy & Infectious Diseases harassed and threatened Meta employees into censoring content critical of Biden's Covid-19 policies.

Here are some of the disturbing "Partnerships" revealed in the MRC report:

- The State Department's AI "Partnership," where the Big Tech firms Anthropic, Google, IBM, Meta, Microsoft, Nvidia, and OpenAI all pledged to work with the government to restrict online speech.

- The United States Agency for Global Media's (USAGM) ongoing partnership with the leftist censorship outfit Poynter Institute, which manages one of the key entities that directed censorship across Meta platforms.

- Biden's National Security Council's extensive collaboration with a U.K. government censorship agency, the Counter Disinformation Unit, to impose U.K. censorship decrees on American agencies and companies.

Notice above the mention of the USAGM? Another reason to cheer Trump executive orders, as reported by Paul Dragu in "Trump Guts International Propaganda Agencies."

Then there are the federal grants (our tax dollars) that are used to muzzle us. Examples include:

- A Department of Homeland Security center that is supposed to stop terrorists at the border was reprogrammed to attack Christians, conservatives, and the Republican Party, equating them with militant neo-Nazi groups (see the "Pyramid of Far Right Radicalization").
- Millions of dollars were collectively funneled to censorship outfits such as NewsGuard, Guidehouse, and GDI via grants from the U.S. Air Force, Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency, and the National Endowment for Democracy, respectively.
- The National Science Foundation gave censorship outfit Meedan more than $5.7 million to create "minority led partnerships" that would flag internet speech for censorship.

Kudos to MRC for this very important report, which should provide DOGE and the U.S. Congress with plenty of information for cutting funds to many organizations and abolishing many government programs and agencies that are clearly inimical to our constitutional order. Moreover, it should provide the DOJ and FBI with a starting point (if they are not already on it) for investigating and prosecuting those officials, as well as their private counterparts, who conspired to violate the rights of American citizens. — WFJ

Taiwan Declares China a "Hostile Foreign Force"

Taiwan's new president, Lai Ching-te, is seeking to reverse years of naïve policy vis-à-vis the Communist mainland by formally declaring Communist China a "foreign hostile force". The move, coming after years of hostile military posturing in the waters around Taiwan and constant threatening rhetoric against Taiwan, is certainly a welcome development, but may be too late to stave off a war. Lai is seeking to bring back some elements of Taiwan's former system, including military tribunals for those accused of espionage and tightening restrictions on travel to and from the mainland. Defending the move, Lai reminded reporters that "China has been taking advantage of democratic Taiwan's freedom, diversity, and openness to recruit gangs, the media, commentators, political parties, and even active-duty and retired members of the armed forces and police to carry out actions to divide, destroy, and subvert us from within."

The CCP is furious over the latest move, vowing to conquer Taiwan by force if it dares to further assert its independence. Blustered a CCP spokesperson, "If the 'Taiwan independence' separatist forces provoke, exert pressure, or dare to cross the red line, resolute actions will be taken in response."

Ironically, the CCP was making a lot more progress winning over Taiwan before Xi Jinping came to power. Wearing the mask of benevolence, Communist Chinese leaders had brought about a thaw in cross-strait relations that encouraged travel and commerce between the two rivals on an unprecedented scale. However, Xi Jinping tore off the mask and embarked on an aggressive policy of near-constant bullying and military intimidation (not only against Taiwan, but also against the Philippines, India, Vietnam, the United States, and Canada). Xi also violated the treaty over Hong Kong's status in his brutal oppression of that once-free city. To nobody's surprise, the people of Taiwan have now re-awoken to the reality of the enemy confronting them. Having no desire to share Hong Kong's fate, they now oppose any type of reunification with the Communist mainland and are increasingly determined to rebuild their neglected defenses and erstwhile civic virtue. — SB

Trump Floats Levies on Chinese Ships

Meanwhile, the U.S. government is considering imposing levies on Chinese ships at U.S. ports. This is in part to offset the enormous advantage China now enjoys in ship manufacturing (a whopping 59 percent of the global total). Thanks to decades of U.S. preferential treatment of Chinese manufacturers, China's shipbuilding capacity now dwarfs that of the United States, both for commercial and military vessels. A surcharge for Chinese-flagged ships visiting American ports would be a small step in the right direction — but so would replacing Chinese-manufactured dock cranes and revitalizing American shipbuilding after decades of outsourcing to the likes of China and South Korea. — SB

OECD Slams Trump Tariffs: No Surprise!

The Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), a globalist organization and UN affiliate, is opposed to Trump's tariffs. In a widely-touted quarterly report, the OECD is warning that Trump's tariffs could cause inflation to rise:

> The high level of geopolitical and policy uncertainty at present brings with it substantial risks to the baseline projections. One possible risk is the escalation of trade restrictive measures. An illustrative exercise, where bilateral tariffs are raised further on all non-commodity imports into the United States with corresponding increases in tariffs applied to non-commodity imports from the United States in all other countries, shows that global output could fall by around 0.3% by the third year, and global inflation could rise by 0.4 percentage points per annum on average over the first three years. The impact of these shocks would be magnified if policy uncertainty were to increase further or there was widespread risk repricing in financial markets.

Accordingly, the OECD is predicting dire consequences for the United States as well as the global economy going forward:

> Global GDP growth is projected to slow from 3.2% in 2024, to 3.1% in 2025 and 3.0% in 2026…. The imposition of new bilateral tariff rates and the associated increase in policy and geopolitical uncertainty will act as a drag, particularly on business investment and trade. In addition, increased trade costs are expected to feed through gradually to final goods prices, putting additional upward pressure on inflation

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> in many countries and requiring monetary policy to remain restrictive for longer than previously expected.
>
> The projections assume that the announced tariff increases between China and the United States and the broad-based 25% tariff on United States imports of steel and aluminium are maintained. In addition, tariff rates on all merchandise imports from Canada and Mexico to the United States are assumed to rise by an additional 25 percentage points (with the exception of the lower tariffs on potash and energy products). Equivalent retaliatory tariffs by Canada and Mexico on merchandise imports from the United States are also assumed…. In the United States, Canada and Mexico, growth is projected to slow as tariff rate increases take effect. The negative impacts are projected to be particularly severe in Canada and Mexico, given greater trade openness, the importance of the bilateral relationship with the United States and the assumption that they will respond fully to increases in US bilateral tariff rates. These effects will be offset only partly by the eventual scope for monetary policy easing, owing to growing spare capacity. Real GDP growth in the United States is projected to slow from its fast pace of 2.8% in 2024 to 2.2% in 2025 and 1.6% in 2026, with growth in Canada projected to slow from 1.5% in 2024 to 0.7% in 2025 and 0.7% in 2026. In Mexico, the economy is projected to experience a recession, with output declining by 1.3% in 2025 and 0.6% in 2026.

Inflation being a monetary phenomenon, tariffs cannot possibly be its cause. But the true nature of inflation is routinely misrepresented by political and economic authorities wishing to absolve central banks and treasury departments of any blame. Blaming economic downturns on tariffs is a false conceit popularized back in the 1930s, when the Smoot-Hawley tariffs (the last tariffs to be levied constitutionally, i.e., by Congress rather than the president) were scapegoated for the Great Depression.

Moreover, the pedigree of the OECD is important to bear in mind. The organization began life in 1948 as the Organisation for European Economic Cooperation (OEEC), and its mission was to coordinate the use of Marshall Plan foreign-aid monies among European recipients. Later, the organization became the framework for the negotiation of a European free-trade zone. In 1960, it was renamed and rechartered as the OECD, and added the United States and Canada. Thus, this organization has always been premised on the virtue of U.S. foreign aid, the sacrosanctity of "free trade," and the taboo of tariffs. Small wonder that it would regard Trump's aggressive tariffs as enormously harmful.
— SB

Jacobin Mag Touts Red Pedigree of Folk Music Icons Guthrie and Seeger

Jacobin, the far-left quarterly print magazine and online Marxist portal, has become the go-to source for socialist/communist activists ranging from the hardcore Leninist, Stalinist, Trotskyist, Maoist, Castroite varieties to the Democratic Socialists of America (DSA) and Antifa. The magazine's name, of course, is taken from the infamous Jacobin Club that initiated the Red Terror of the French Revolution. Ah, but *Jacobin* goes further, adopting "The Black Jacobin" as "Our visual identity," apparently viewing the bloodthirsty French Jacobins as squishy in comparison to the savage bloodthirst of the Black Jacobins of Haiti and Santo Domingo.

In a March 5, 2025, online article titled "The Communist Folk Singers Who Shaped Bob Dylan," *Jacobin* provides some interesting and long-suppressed background on two of the most well-known folk musicians of the 20th Century: Woody Guthrie and Pete Seeger.

"Before Bob Dylan was Bob Dylan, he was a disciple of Woody Guthrie," the article begins. "But Guthrie and his contemporaries were more than folk singers — they were blacklisted radicals, shaping American music while staring down the Red Scare."

The *Jacobin* piece reverentially recounts the legendary travels of Guthrie and Seeger during the 1940s-1960s era. (Guthrie died at age 55 in 1967, Seeger continued on until 2014, dying at age 94.) Throughout their lives, Guthrie and Seeger were lionized by the "mainstream" media, which passed off concerns about their lifelong service to the Soviet Union and the Moscow-directed Communist Party USA as ridiculous anti-communist hysteria.

Both Guthrie and Seeger were prolific songwriters, and many of their tunes have hits recorded by multiple popular artists: "If I Had a Hammer," "Where Have All the Flowers Gone?" "Turn, Turn, Turn," "Kisses Sweeter Than Wine," "This Land Is Your Land," "This Train Is Bound for Glory."

Together with other radical artists of the era, they performed in the Almanac Singers and The Weavers, where, *Jacobin* notes, they slavishly followed the Communist Party line:

> The Almanac Singers were unapologetically political. Their songs often followed "the Party line," shifting from anti-fascist anthems to isolationist "peace songs" during the brief period of the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact — then back to fighting the fascists after the Nazi invasion of the Soviet Union. Critics have painted this political pivot as naïve or opportunistic, but for Guthrie, Seeger, and their comrades, these shifts reflected the urgency of their time.

This ability of dedicated Reds to flip-flop on cue from the Party masters is known as "zig-zag parallelism": When the Party says "Zig!" you zig; when the Party says "Zag!", you zag. No questions asked, only iron-fisted discipline and obedience to the Party. So, one day you're denouncing Hitler and Fascism, the next day Stalin and Hitler strike a pact to divvy up Europe, so now you defend Hitler. This type of Orwellian double-think was too much for many comrades, who left the Party in disillusionment. But not Guthrie and Seeger; they remained solid Stalinists.

Regarding a 1940 road trip, *Jacobin* recounts that when the duo reached Oklahoma, "Woody contacted the local Communist Party, which sent party organizers Robert and Ina Wood to escort them. The Woods set up a kind of miniature tour, bringing them to sing for impoverished residents of Hooverville, the unemployed Workers Alliance, and the striking oil workers."

Jacobin also notes that "Seeger later claimed in a 1956 sealed letter to his grandchildren that 'being a communist has helped me, I believe, to be a better singer and folklorist, and a more selfless citizen.'"

While the *Jacobin* tribute to Guthrie and Seeger brings to light some long-buried truth about the duo's Red record, most of the ugly reality has been available to readers of *The New American* for many years. See, for instance, the extensive rundown on Seeger by Bob Adelmann in 2014 here. — WFJ

Constitution Victory: Idaho Rejects ConCon … Again

Good News: Despite a well-funded, high-pressure campaign by the Convention of States Project (COS), the Idaho House of Representatives delivered a stinging rebuke to those who would subject the U.S. Constitution to the jeopardy of a runaway Constitutional Convention.

"The Idaho House overwhelmingly rejected House Concurrent Resolution 10, aimed at petitioning Congress to call an Article V Convention of States," reported Idaho GOP Chairwoman Dorothy Moon on March 13. "This is a decisive victory for Idahoans by safeguarding America's Constitution," she continued. "The resolution failed by a significant margin, 44 nays to 26 ayes. This rejection occurred despite Convention of States promoters who have spent hundreds of thousands of dollars each year to influence state legislators. The national Convention of States Project has for several years spent fortunes influencing Idaho legislative races in hopes to remove opposition against their failed agenda."

Mrs. Moon noted further:

> An Article V Convention, often represented as the Founder's intended method for amending the Constitution, poses grave risks during our nation's current expanding political polarization. Though intended to allow states to propose amendments, the provisions of Article V remain dangerously vague. The Constitution provides no guidelines for selecting convention delegates, no limitations on the matters that could be addressed, and no mechanisms to rein in a "runaway convention." Former Chief Justice Warren Burger warned of these risks, asserting that there is no way to limit or control what such a convention might do once convened. The Republican National Committee codified this sentiment in its 2012 resolution firmly opposing any attempt to convene an Article V Constitutional Convention, seeing it as an opportunity for radical liberal groups to fundamentally rewrite the Constitution to advance their agenda….

In addition to Dorothy Moon and the heroic efforts of legislators such as Representatives Heather Scott and Judy Boyle, much of the credit for stopping what many feared was unstoppable COS momentum goes to The John Birch Society's Idaho Coordinator Leah Southwell, who led a statewide educational effort against COS Con Con scheme. A deserving shoutout also goes to Dr. William Green, a retired educator who personally called more than 60 legislators. He also met one-on-one with several legislators and authored an excellent op-ed against the Con Con for the "My Turn" column of the Coeur d'Alene Press, titled, "Just Say No." — WFJ

[END]